

BY EMAIL ONLY

Ms Maisie Cheng Mei-sze, JP Director of Environmental Protection

The EIA Ordinance Register Office, Environmental Protection Department

(E-mail: eiaocomment@epd.gov.hk)

21st May 2020

Dear Ms. Cheng,

Improvement of Yuen Long Town Nullah (Town Centre Section) Environmental Impact Assessment

- 1. Green Power would like to respond to the Environmental Impact Assessment for the Improvement of Yuen Long Town Nullah (Town Centre Section).
- 2. Key works items of the captioned project are supported in principle, given that the project is beneficial to the air quality along the Yuen Long Town Nullah and the water quality at the Deep Bay area. However, project proponent is responsible for ensuring that sufficient water flow will be maintained in the Yuen Long Town Nullah after the completion of the captioned project.
- 3. Under the captioned project, about 62% dry weather flow (21,500 m³/day) in the Yuen Long Town Nullah will be intercepted. In addition, a drainage work to divert additional flow from the upstream to the Yuen Long Bypass Floodway (YLBF) will be carried out under another associated project "Yuen Long Barrage Scheme" (YLBS). A significant reduction of dry weather flow along the Town Centre Section is anticipated.
- 4. Sufficient water flow is necessary for improvement of water quality and restoration of aquatic ecology. Project proponent shall consider that such a reduction of dry weather flow may compromise the future revitalization works of the Yuen Long Town Nullah under the YLBS.

5. The original upstream water flow of the San Hui Nullah has been intercepted since the construction of YLBF in 2003. According to the Environmental Protection Department, water quality at the monitoring station YL2 was classified as "Fair" in three consecutive years from 2000 to 2002, right before the construction of the YLBF. It may explain that the current "Bad" dry weather flow on San Hui Nullah, according to this EIA report (Section 6.3.12), is resulted from the significant reduction of water flow. Hence, instead of intercepting the dry weather flow at San Hui Nullah as suggested by the captioned project, re-connecting the upstream water flow from the Tai Shu Ha Road to the downstream San Hui Nullah can be considered as an alternative. Bringing back the intercepted water flow to San Hui Nullah can likely improve the water quality of Yuen Long Town Nullah without sacrificing the overall water flow volume.

6. Apart from the key works of the captioned project, the project proponent is urged to cope with the root sources of water pollution. In particular, proactive measures shall be adopted to deter the public from littering, dumping refuse, and discharge sewage into the catchment of Yuen Long Town Nullah.

7. The ecological functions of Yuen Long Town Nullah shall also be enhanced through re-establishment of native vegetation, re-connection of water flow from upstream to river mouth, and provision of natural river bed substratum. Project proponent is encouraged to engage with local green groups about the latest revitalization plan for the Yuen Long Town Nullah.

Thank you very much for your kind attention. We look forward to your favorable decisions.

Yours sincerely,

LO Wing Fung

Assistant Senior Education & Conservation Officer

GREEN POWER